



### Cellulose Insulation

The workman pictured is loading onto a truck bags of fire-retardant cellulose insulation produced by All-Weather Insulation Company, Springfield, Kentucky. Made by shredding old newspapers and treating them with a combination of chemicals, the insulating material is blown into walls and attics to form a fiber layer which blocks inflow or outflow of air.

All-Weather Insulation is a new company whose establishment was aided by the NASA Technology Applications Program at the University of Kentucky, a group known as NASA/UK-TAP. This type of spinoff is one in which NASA provided technical assistance of an informational nature rather than aerospace technology.

Interested in starting an insulation production facility, All-Weather Insulation's founders asked NASA/UK-TAP's help; they wanted to know what chemicals added to shredded newspapers would produce an insulating material capable of meeting federal specifications, and in what proportions the newsprint and chemicals should be mixed for best insulating qualities. NASA/UK-TAP researched the query and furnished extensive information obtained from government agencies, industry associations and other sources. The information contributed to successful development of the product and helped launch a new small business enterprise which is now growing rapidly. NASA/UK-TAP is one of nine NASA dissemination centers which provide information retrieval services and technical assistance to industrial firms and government organizations.

